



# Two-Port Solution

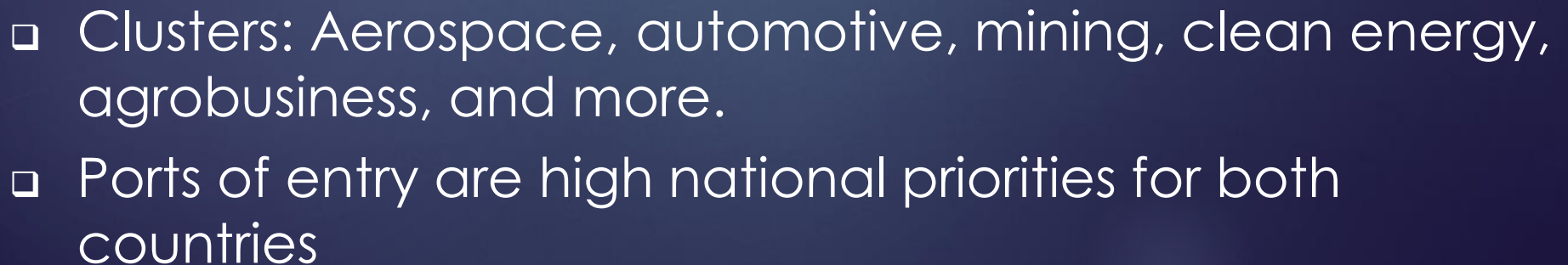
The Honorable Robert Uribe  
Mayor, City of Douglas

Luis Ramírez Thomas, MSFS  
Advisor

Douglas Regional Economic Development Corporation

Agua Prieta, Sonora  
August 6, 2019

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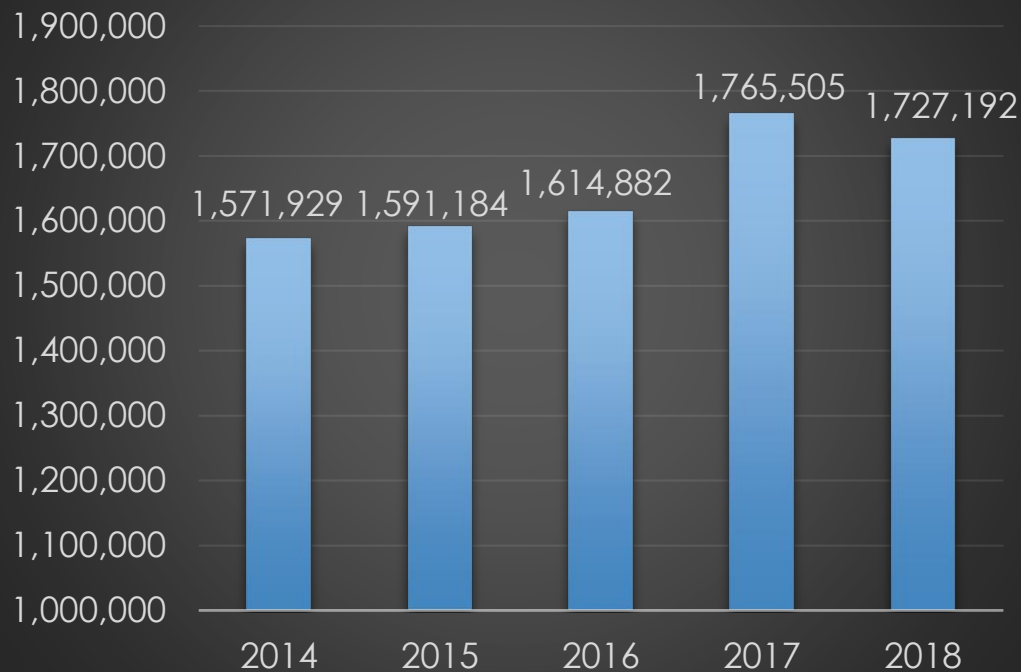
# Port of Entry Today

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- ❑ Lack of space for expansion
- ❑ Port of Entry in the middle of both cities
- ❑ Intermingling of buses with cars and pedestrians
- ❑ Hazardous materials through population centers

## Cars

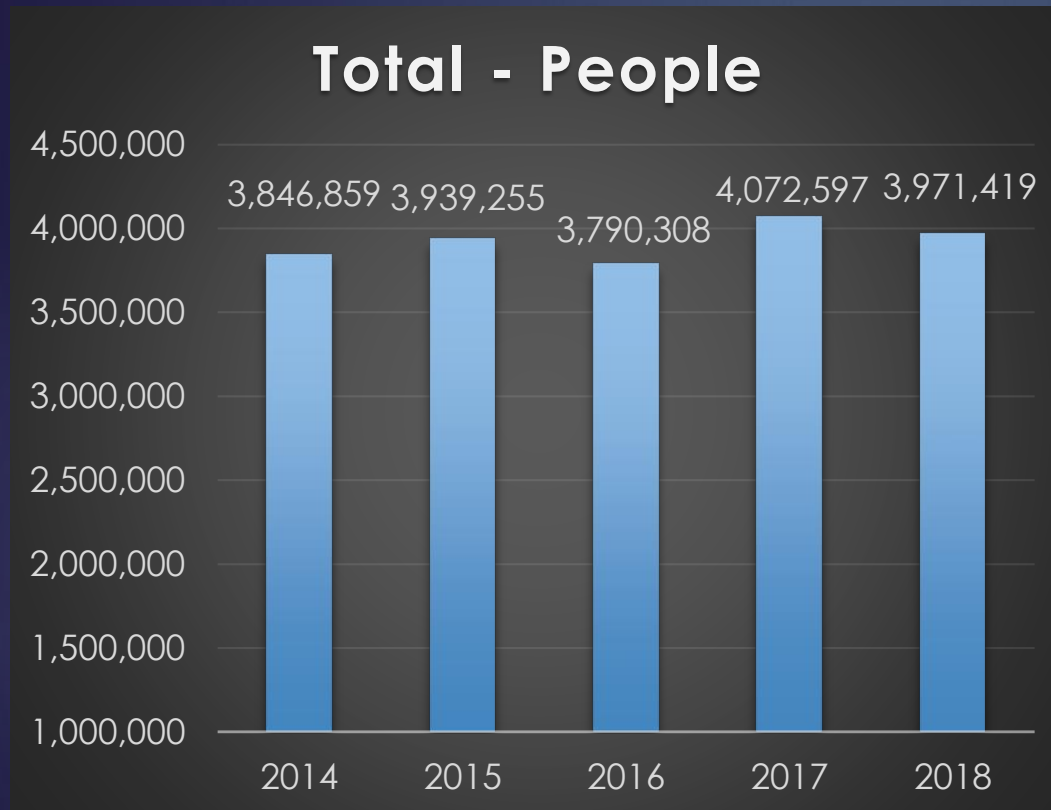


- ❑ With the deployment of SENTRI and READY lanes wait times have improved
- ❑ Yet in recent months wait times have increased
- ❑ “Hardening of the border and the reassignment of personnel have negatively impacted border wait times
- ❑ Nevertheless, in two-way traffic, more than 3.5 million cars cross through Douglas each year



# People

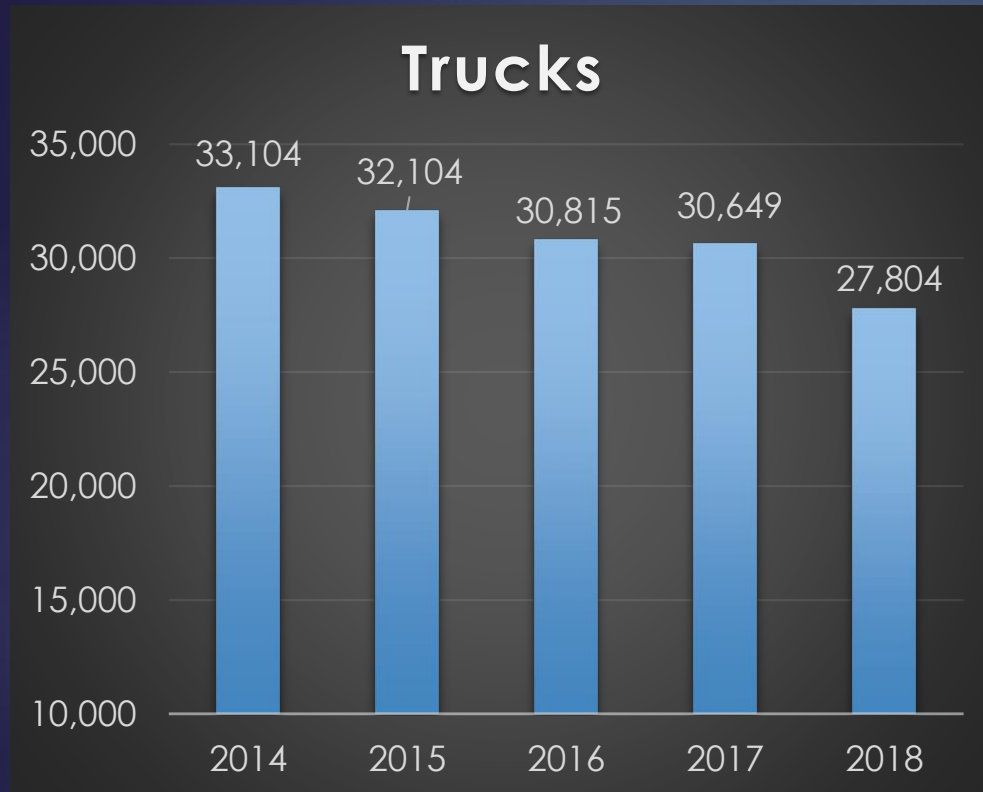
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- Pedestrian traffic has been declining, in particular from 2013 to 2014 and the volumes have not returned.
- Some of this can be attributed to more people crossing by car
- SVMPO study, confirms regional impact of POE of over \$700 million
- Approximately 8 million people cross, in two-way traffic each year

# Truck Crossings

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- \$4 billion – Est. value of IM & EX
- 100% of trucks being processed under UCP
- Outlook is very positive:
  - Almost 0% unemployment in Agua Prieta
  - Expansions of existing Maquiladoras
  - Restructuring of companies have lead to slowdown
  - New projects
- Uncertainty remains about ratification of USMCA

# Donation of Parking Lot Concluded

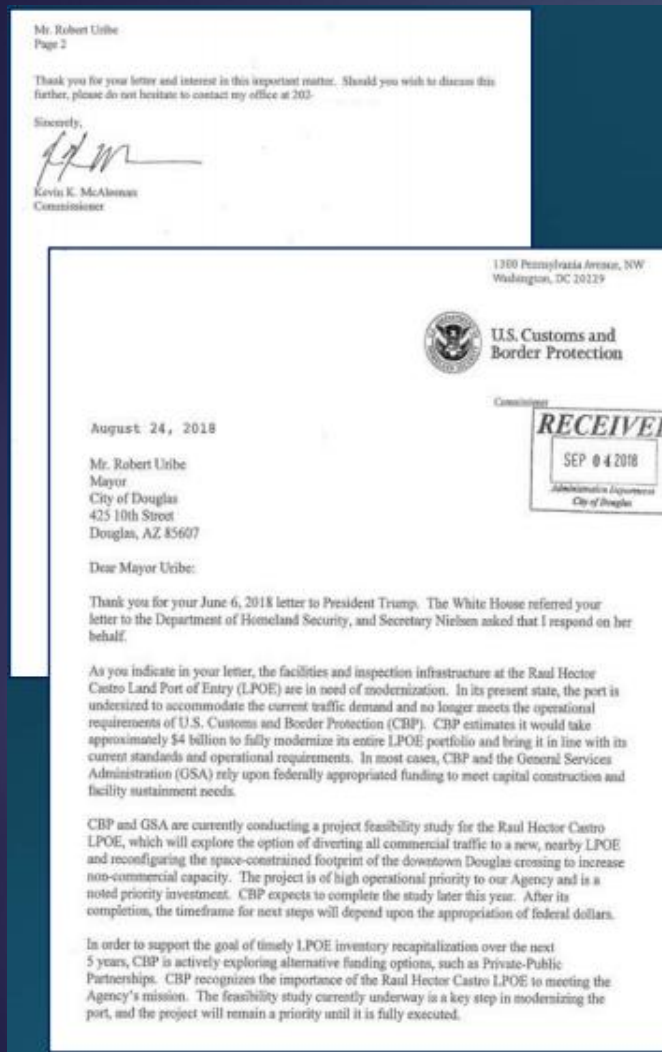
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- ❑ City donated parking lot and extra land to CBP
  - ❑ Relieves congestion inside Commercial compound
  - ❑ CBP/GSA will pay for all improvements and patrolling
  - ❑ Provides dedicated space for official and Personal vehicles
  - ❑ Additional space used for staging of SB trucks that participate in UCP program
- ❑ Provides support to Port of Entry initiatives

# Feasibility Study

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- “ ...the port is undersized to accommodate current traffic and no longer meets the operational requirements of US Customs and Border Protection.”
- “The feasibility study currently underway is a key step in modernizing the port, and the project will remain a priority until it is fully executed.”

CBP Commissioner Kevin McAleenan

Letter to Mayor of Douglas , August 24, 2018



# Two-Port Solution Confirmed!

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- ❑ The GSA and CBP Feasibility Study confirms that the preferred alternative is the Two-Port Solution to provide long solution to current problems
- ❑ GSA confirms that it will construct the new port of entry to relocate commercial operations and then modernize the existing (old) port of entry
- ❑ Preferred location for the new port is approximately 5 miles to the west at James Ranch Road.
- ❑ Commitment by US Department of State to inform Mexico of results of Feasibility Study via Exchange of Diplomatic Notes

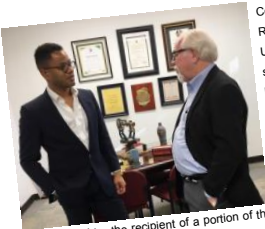
# Congressional Support

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Embracing our Heritage, Advancing our Future

## MEDIA RELEASE: ONE STEP CLOSER, US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROPRIATES MONEY FOR DOUGLAS COMMERCIAL PORT OF ENTRY (Douglas, Arizona) June 17, 2019



Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick's State Director, Ron Barber, met with Douglas Mayor Robert Uribe on Friday, June 14, 2019 to personally share the great news that the Congresswoman has been successful in moving money for the proposed commercial Douglas Port of Entry out of the House Appropriations Committee via the 2020 Homeland Security spending bill. Nearly \$1.2 billion is slated for land-based Ports of Entry across the US, and the Raul H. Castro Port in

Douglas will be the recipient of a portion of the \$848 million from this source designated for basic and major repairs of ports around the country.

"We are extremely proud of this port," exclaimed Mayor Uribe. "This project, the port upgrade, is for the benefit of the city and this country. It is well understood with the surrounding cities and the state, up to the highest offices in this land. We are finally sensing our entry into the home stretch of realizing an enhanced and modernized port for Douglas."

A revitalized port of entry will bring not only opportunities for initial employment and revenues due to the construction of such a large federal project, but is anticipated to create spin-off development of warehousing, manufacturing and light industrial uses for the City of Douglas adding jobs for its residents and those in the region.

In anticipation of this project, the City has begun a study area for annexation towards the land designated for the port and has already begun to review the infrastructure needs to be provided by the City, utility partners and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) relating to roads. This is in follow-up to the City Council-developed Strategic Action Plan from March 2019 that incorporates the vision of and preparation for future economic activity, such as the Port of Entry, that will strengthen the trade, commerce and economy of the city of Douglas and benefit the residents.

"Modernizing our Douglas Port of Entry is one of my top priorities," Kirkpatrick noted. "I am proud to share that our southern port has jumped on the priority list for funding and I look forward to continue working on this committee until we see a new port complete. Kirkpatrick continued, "More than most districts around the country, this funding bill impacts our district significantly. I am proud to have a voice at the table and push to secure adequate funding for our border and border personnel."

A comprehensive approach to enhancing our Ports of Entry was sought by the Congresswoman and the Appropriations Committee. Included as part of the funding bill is direction to the General Services Administration (GSA) federal agency to research related needs of ports on the southern US border such as border infrastructure staffing and procedures for handling of immigrants, standard practice to process asylum seekers including evaluation of the procedures to ensure migrant protection.

# # #

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Congresswoman Anne Kirkpatrick  
June 17, 2019

# Meeting at the Border!

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- City of Douglas is prepared to donate 80 acres of land immediately adjacent to the border for the construction of the new port of entry
- Working with Private Property owner, Municipality and State of Sonora on transfer of land on the Mexican side to create a seamless design for binational facilities



# Conceptual Design

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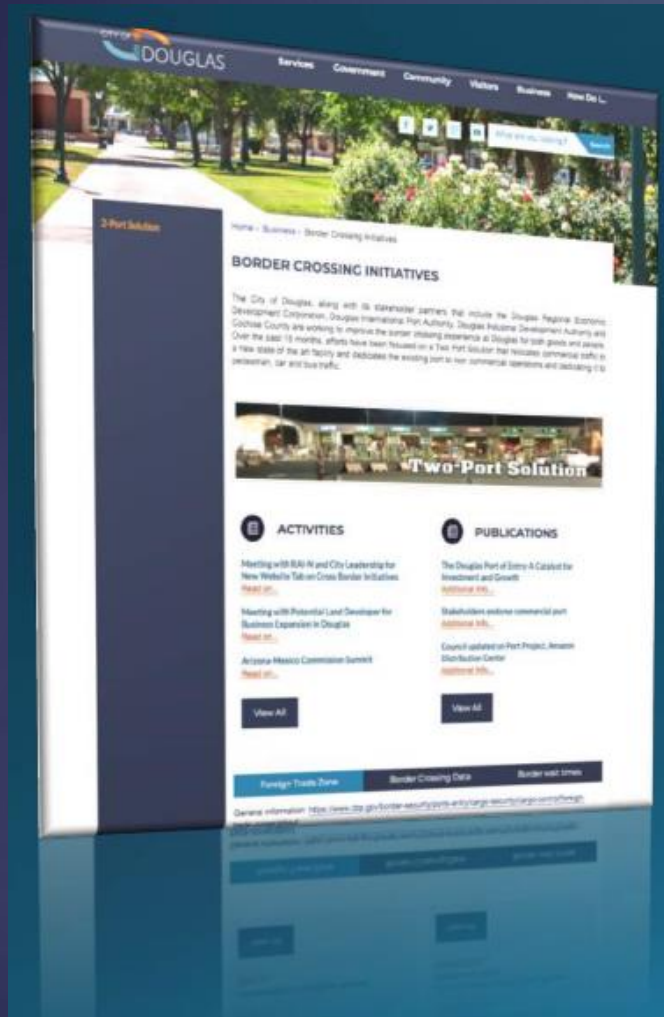
- ❑ Conceptual Design for new port of entry
- ❑ First new port that would incorporate UCP into the design
- ❑ Technical team of local, state and federal stakeholders working to address all related infrastructure (road, water/sewage, electricity, ...)



# Conclusion: Two-Port Solution

- ❑ New security initiatives and traffic congestion have aggravated situation
- ❑ Need to have Hazardous Materials cross in a location outside of population centers
- ❑ The GSA and CBP Feasibility Study confirms the necessity of Two Ports to solve problems at Douglas/Agua Prieta
- ❑ City of Douglas is committed to donating up to 80 acres for the new port of entry
- ❑ Technical Working Team has been created to look at all related infrastructure issues
- ❑ Urgent: Secure commitment from Mexican Federal Government to advance Two-Port Solution

# Stay Informed



- ❑ Stay apprised of updates by visiting the web site of the City of Douglas at:

*[DouglasAz.gov/471/Border-Crossing-Initiatives](https://DouglasAz.gov/471/Border-Crossing-Initiatives)*

- ❑ Encourage you to share the information with other stakeholders and welcome your input.

# Thank you!

The Honorable Robert Uribe  
Mayor  
City of Douglas

Luis Ramírez, MSFS  
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Douglas Regional Economic  
Development Corporation

